



CREWKERNE URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1943.

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Public Health Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health.

D.V. Hague, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector.

H.R. Stamp, A.R. San.I.



To the Chairman and Councillors of the Crewkerne Urban District.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report for 1943. Overcrowding is still in evidence and is bound to continue until an appreciable number of new houses can be built.

Shortage of main water has been felt in the district for a considerable period. Similar difficulties have been experienced in the surrounding districts. The whole question of water supplies is likely to come under review on a national scale in the near future.

A start has been made on necessary improvements to the Eastern Outfall Sewage works. Further work will be necessary at the Eastern Outfall works after the war.

The influenza epidemic which occurred in the late Autumn was fortunately of a mild type. There was one death from pneumonia. Influenza was a contributory factor in deaths due to other causes - chiefly concerning old people.

Hospital services are very good indeed. The new Maternity Unit has proved to be of great value and is fully occupied.

Housing is the most pressing post war problem which will in turn demand an improved water supply and sewage disposal works.

Yours faithfully,

D.V. HAGUE.

# SECTION A.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	57	29	28
Illegitimate.	3	2	1
Stillbirths - Legitimate	2	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths.	49	22	27
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			15
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births			29
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.			12

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total Births (live & still)
No.29, Puerperal Sepsis	} Nil	Nil.
No.30 Other Puerperal Causes		

Death rate of Infants under One year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 Live Births.	17
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	17
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births.	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7
" " Measles (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Causes of Death.

	M	F
Cancer.	4	3
Intra cranial vascular lesions.	1	-
Heart Disease .	9	11
Bronchitis.	-	1
Pneumonia.	1	2
Digestive Disorders.	1	-
Nephritis.	1	-
Road Traffic Accidents.	1	-
Violent Causes.	-	1
All other causes.	4	11
	<u>22</u>	<u>27</u>

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i) Medical Officer of Health.	}	No Change.
Sanitary Inspector		
(ii) (a) <u>Laboratory Facilities.</u>	}	No Change.
(b) <u>Ambulance Facilities.</u>		No Change.
(c) <u>Clinic.</u>		No change
(d) <u>Nursing</u>		
(e) <u>Hospital</u>		

## SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply - No Change.
2. Draining & Sewerage - Preliminary improvements have, during the year, been carried out at the Eastern Outfall Sewage Works - forming part of a future scheme. The Council have appointed a Consulting Engineer to prepare a scheme for larger and more efficient works at the Eastern Outfall.
3. (i) Closet Accommodation - No Change.  
 (ii) Public Cleansing - No Change.  
 (iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections for nuisances :-

Informal Notices :-

NIL

Draining Tests and Inspections.

New draining work carried out during the year was tested and passed.

Houses disinfected

4 Houses were disinfected following cases of infectious diseases.

Shops and Offices

No action was taken during the year under the Shops Act, 1934.

Smoke Abatement

No cases of smoke nuisance were reported during the year.

4. Schools - No Change  
 Evacuees under the Government Scheme are accommodated at the Crewkerne Schools.

## SECTION D - HOUSING.

No new houses have been built during the year. Evacuees have continued to return. There were approximately 66 evacuees in the Town at the end of the year. Twelve condemned houses are still temporarily in use.

### Housing Inspections.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under P.H. or Housing Acts.) ... .. 48  
 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... .. 54

2. (a) Number of Dwelling Houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under H.Con. Reg. 1925 and 1932. NIL
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. NIL
- (c) Number of houses in which no action was found necessary NIL
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. One.
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Two.

Housing Action.

- (a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 1
- (b) Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action. Nil.

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. Nil.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Proceedings under Section 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936. Nil.

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936. Nil

Housing Act, 1936. - Overcrowding.

There is still some unavoidable but highly undesirable overcrowding.

SECTION E :- INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of Producers on the Register. 10

Number of Distributors on the register divided as follows:-

- (1) Distributors only. 6
- (2) Distributors who are also producers. 3

Action taken with regard to inspection of farms and dairies, examination of samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli, and the administration of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 and the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938:

Cowsheds and dairies are periodically inspected and samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli taken for examination.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

Number of Slaughterhouses Licensed: 1

Slaughterhouse, Shops, etc., are inspected and meat and other foods are examined, and, where necessary, condemning notices are served.

(c) Adulteration, etc.

Local action taken: None.

### SECTION F - INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

At the end of 1943 the following numbers of children had been immunised:-

	<u>Total Number</u>	<u>Number Immunised,</u>	
<u>School Children attending School</u>	403	389	96%
<u>Children under School age and over 1 year.</u>	244	174	71%

#### Notifiable Diseases.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified,</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Isolation Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Measles	3	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1

Cases of non-notifiable Infectious Diseases admitted to South Petherton Isolation Hospital:-

Tonsillitis: 2 Civilians.

Analysis of the Total Cases Notified.

	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.
Measles.	1					1		1		
Whooping Cough.							1			
Ophthalmia	1									
Neonatorum.										
Puerperal Pyrexia,									6	

Tuberculosis.

<u>Age Period.</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 1.								
1 - 5								
5 - 15		1						
15 - 25								
25 - 35		1						
35 - 45	1	1						
45 - 55		1						
55 - 65								
65 & Upwards.								
TOTAL.	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total

New Cases 5.

Deaths NIL.